

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4 remain in this application, claims 2-3 are canceled, and new claims 5-19 are added.

As noted in the Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed together with this Amendment, international publication WO 01/55585 A1 is a member of the same patent family as European publication EP 1 262 654 A1, which was included in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement previously filed on December 5, 2003, but has an earlier August 2, 2001, publication date. In paragraph 32 of column 6 on page 4 of European publication EP 1 262 654 A1, it is disclosed that the swirler 21 is made of a sintered alloy such as SUS416. SUS416 is a martensitic stainless steel. The European publication mentioned, however, does not disclose the hardness of the SUS416 alloy. In paragraph 29 of column 6 on page 4 of European publication EP 1 262 654 A1, certain elements including the needle 5 are described as made of, for example, a stainless-based magnetic material.

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